## Why Are Black People So Ignorant? Hosea 4:6

It has been a distressing time, for black people in general especially after the turbulence history that we have gone through. God has redeemed black people from a life of slavery through a man named Abraham Lincoln by freeing them. After the Emancipation Proclamation was issued and the war ended many slaves did not want to leave the plantation. They rather to live in bondage then be free to live their lives as free men and women.

Sadly in 2007 many Blacks still have the same mentality of not wanting to leave the plantation. In our world today, black people are not aware of the dangers of their lifestyles, their diets, their environment, or the people they put into office. Hosea 4:6 says, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children." This statement spoken over three thousand years ago reflects a timeless principle that is just as applicable today as when it was written. When people die without being saved, it is not that God did not want them to be saved, for He would have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

For black people to come to the true knowledge of freedom, the first step is to stop blaming the white community for the conditions, which presently exist in our community, because there is no one to blame but ourselves. Yes, we are ignorant not because we lack the intelligence but because we have not challenged a corrupt system that uses black people to assist in their own demise. Black men need to be responsible fathers instead of absent and allowing the burden to fall on the woman or worse having he child raise themselves in a mean and unjust world.

Yes, Blacks people are ignorant because we have been fooled into voting and supporting Uncle Toms leaders every since blacks have gained the right to vote and because of that we have made poor choices. We put the wrong people in offices by voting for the popular candidates instead of the qualified ones, for instance such as ineffective judges, inexperienced clerks of courts, uncaring politicians, heartless civic leaders, and godless ministers who have no compassion for the people they serve. Communities are decaying and more people are living in poverty than ever before because of the lack of knowledge. When we realize that we have made the worst mistake ever is when nothing gets done in our communities and our people remain poor and disadvantaged. The question that comes to us, is this the future for Blacks people to remain dehumanized, oppressed, poor, and forgotten? Is this future that we will leave to our children and for the world to remember us by? One place where black people should feel safe and secure is the one place where corruption exist the most, which is the Black church. Black preachers especially who are a significant group within the mass Black population that have tunnel vision. Many Black preachers who defy the written word by keeping people in state of bondage and denial are on a road to Hell. Instead of fulfilling their Christian duty by standing up against social injustices and preaching the truth, black ministers are busy robbing the people and supporting those that support black on black discrimination, which is a clear violation of the scriptures and God principles. Black preachers are making a mockery out of Christianity and evidently thinking God is a fool. The problem is that when mankind lacks the knowledge that would bring them to Christ for salvation and freedom. Paul writes in II Timothy 3:1-7 "That in the last days perilous times shall come; Ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." It is because we as black people resist the truth, that which can set us free and break the shackles of bondage. If we sincerely asked Christ into our lives and arm ourselves with the Word of God in our hearts, we can accomplish the impossible. We must remind ourselves daily of what the Word says about us, others, and life in general, and not what the world's says. We as a race of people, capable of accomplishing anything we put our minds too. This is why I urge you to read the word daily for yourself and reflect upon the beautiful truths about the power of the Holy Spirit to save us from sin and those workers of iniquity, and the destiny of hell.

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## It's Ok to Mistreat Blacks in the City of Monroe 1 John 4:16

The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said "A time comes when silence is betrayal." These words still ring true today. Its has been the norm for some time now for other races, nationalities, and cultures to mistreat, abuse, discriminate, and even murder blacks in the city of Monroe. It remains true that many black citizens in Monroe have no legal protection from even the most vicious forms of discrimination and harassment.

The reason this is possible is because other blacks sit around and allow this treatment to exist and continue. I have noticed that Blacks in this area turn a deaf ear and a blind eye to the social injustices, the brutality, and the discrimination against blacks. Although we have blacks in power in areas where a difference can be made, and this sort of treatment can be stopped; however the oppression continues. The question is; why do we allow this treatment to continue? The answer is fear. Fear is a powerful weapon or tool the oppressor uses to constrain people of color. Fear is the most dangerous emotion that can creep into ones heart and soul; fear can handicap the strongest of the strong and kill the weakest of the weak. Although, these are fearful times, we must not allow fear to consume us. History tells us that when fear takes over, people allow their freedom to be curtailed, and that is always dangerous.

Blacks in Monroe and other cities across this nation fear the consequences; consequences if they were to speak out or do something to stop the abuse of their brothers and sisters. Many blacks fear losing their job, position, or social status. Others simply do not care one way or the other, unless it happens to them.

How long will we as so called Christians sit back in silence and fear? How many more of our people must be beaten and jailed for no reason other than being black? How many more people must get maced before some one say enough is enough? How many more neighborhoods must decay before it's too late? How many unfulfilled dreams must be lost? And how many must die before the black community wakes up?

Blacks in Monroe and else where need a spiritual conversion of heart and consciousness. Conversion changes individuals, and individuals change society. Overcoming fear begins by opening ourselves to God's Spirit, who draws all to holiness. The Spirit makes each of us a member of the Body of Christ, and this spiritual relationship is the source of our hope for personal and social change. In Christ, we recognize fear as a division contrary to his will for his people, a division the Spirit of God can heal.

The time has come for us as Christian believers to say with one voice: We will not live in fear any longer. We are encouraged not to run from trouble, nor fear the oppressor or the challenge, and not to hate the cross that we must bear, because these things are the elements of Salvation. The Christian life is not one of ease, painlessness and self indulgence. These things lead only to boredom, weakness and non-productivity. Only those of us who accept the diligent, demanding, determining discipline of the cross may enjoy the triumph of truth and justice. Regardless of the circumstances that we face we must stand firm in the Lord.

1 John 4:16 speaks of God's love, God freely offers to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves. Our humble and openhearted acceptance is faith. So by faith we are saved. To achieve this mankind must become filled with God and allow God's spirit to operate through us bringing about unbelievable changes in our individual and social lives."

It would be naive to think or say that racism will disappear overnight; it is too deeply embedded in the American experience. But change will come if we as Christians remain faithful and never lose sight of the goal. The goal is visible when we see with the eyes of Christ, for our hope of ultimate victory is in the Lord who desires that we be one in him. A Change must come and it will come.

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